

TSAC Update

Helping Students Achieve Their Goals Since 1974

September 2006 Vol. 3

Compliance/Legal Affairs Division Update for September 2006

Congratulations to the high school counselors and institutions that participated in the High School Counselor Internship Program this summer. We had 16 high school counselors to participate and 11 institutions to serve as host. This program continues to be well received by the school counselors who have the opportunity to participate, as the e-mails and phone calls we've received about their experiences have all been very positive.

The institutions have appreciat-

ed the extra help in the offices. The high school counselors are excited about the financial aid information they've learned and have been using it to help their students navigate the financial aid process.

It's not too soon to begin planning to serve as a host institution for next summer. If you have questions or need additional information about the program, contact Darolyn Porter at darolyn.porter@state.tn.us.

In This Issue

- Compliance/Legal Affairs Division Update September 2006 Page 1
- Summer and Fall Certification Page 1
- 2005-06 Grant and Scholarships Page 1
- Message from the Executive Director Page 2
- New Regional Office for TSAC Page 2
- TSAC New Grants & Scholarships Leader Page 2
- Get to know the TSAC team Page 3
- New publication posting on the TSAC website Page 3
- HOPE Foster Child Tuition Grant Update Page 3
- TSAC's New Move Page 4
- Important Contact Information Page 4
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Page 4
- Tennessee Student Assistance Award 2006-07 Page 4
- Upcoming Events Page 4

Summer and Fall Certification

It will be necessary for all schools to complete the summer and fall Certification Rosters by Oct. 16 of this year. As in years past, TSAC will be monitoring these funds throughout the year. All schools will be required to complete a TSAA Summer and Fall Reconciliation Rosters by Dec. 1, 2006. This will enable TSAC to report mid-year funding expenditures for the TSAA program.

2005~06 Grant and Scholarships

The federal and state funded grant and scholarships that are administered by TSAC funded 19,705 students for a total of \$40,936,281.

Award	Students	Total Award Amounts
Tennessee Student Assistance Award	18,713	\$38,447,877
Dependent Children Scholarship	27	\$133,456
Minority Teaching Fellows	113	\$518,904
Ned McWherter Scholars	165	\$480,000
Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship	537	\$756,982
Tennessee Teaching Scholars	150	\$599,062

Message from the Executive Director

Where will you be on the fourth Thursday of September? How about the fourth Thursday of March? I hope that your answer to both questions is, "Nashville, at the TSAC Board Meeting."

TSAC truly wants the financial aid community to attend and participate in its board meetings. To make that easier, and to allow you to plan ahead, the meeting calendar has been standardized. Please open up Outlook or pull out your personal calendar and pencil in the



fourth Thursday of March and September for the next several years.

The next board meeting will be held on the afternoon of Sept. 28, just a few short weeks from now. A meeting agenda and supporting background documents will be available on our website a week or two before the meeting. Among other items the board will consider initial rules for two new loan forgiveness programs and rule changes for the lottery scholarship program, hear year-end reports for all major TSAC programs, consider TSAC's budget request for the 2007-08 year, and hear plans for an improved TSAC outreach program with regional offices across the state. Please join us!

Bob Ruble

New Regional Office for TSAC

In order to be more accessible to colleges, universities, and high schools around the state, the Communications Services Division has been working diligently to create regional offices for new and existing Outreach Specialists. After months of planning and preparation, the first regional office has officially opened at East Tennessee State University. The newly-created space is home to Jane Anne Fowler, the newest addition to TSAC's outreach efforts in the east Tennessee region.

Preparation for the creation of a regional office at the University of Memphis is currently underway, with hopes that the office will be functional by mid-October. Once the Memphis office has been established, additional regional offices will be created in Chattanooga and northwest Tennessee.

With the fall travel season upon us, the outreach Specialists are excited to begin a travel term full of presentations, appointments, and fairs. As a partner with the Tennessee Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (TACRAO), representatives from TSAC will be attending the majority of college fairs held across Tennessee over the next few months. Participation in additional financial aid and college access presentations within various Tennessee high schools has already begun, with many dates already finalized for the spring term.

TSAC New Grants & Scholarships Leader



TSAC is pleased to welcome Tim Phelps as our new Associate Executive Director of Grant and Scholarship programs. With 11 years of experience in higher education, Tim will be a big asset to our team. His bright future began in the higher education field with a recommendation from a friend and a position with the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA). He then moved to the administration of the newly-created Kentucky State

Merit Scholarship and has devoted the last eight years to student aid management and administration of Kentucky's state scholarships, grants, and other student aid programs.

As the father of four girls, we know that Tim has excellent multi-tasking skills, as well as little free time. Tim is a native Kentuckian, and is an avid sports enthusiast who enjoys playing basketball and softball. He enjoys college football, but like a true Kentuckian he bleeds blue and is devoted to his beloved Wildcats from the University of Kentucky.

Tim's transition to TSAC has been highly anticipated by our organization. We hope you will take the time to meet greet our new Associate Executive Director of Grants and Scholarship Programs at the upcoming TASFAA conference in October.

Comments from Tim

I am excited to join the TSAC family. I also look forward to working very closely with the financial aid community here. This is a great opportunity to help serve the students and parents of Tennessee.

Get to know the TSAC team



Darolyn Porter, our Compliance Administrator at TSAC, is a native Tennessean who hails from Chattanooga. She began

her career in higher education as a financial aid counselor at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and subsequently held positions within financial aid as Assistant Director, Associate Director and Director at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, University of Memphis and Austin Peay State University. During her career, she has been active in TASFAA and built many relationships within the financial aid community and felt very comfortable transitioning from the university setting to the TSAC team. Darolyn joined us almost three years ago and has proven herself to be an

essential part of our team.

Darolyn has a cheerful personality that is infectious. This, combined with her knowledge and experience, has allowed her to make many friends in the financial aid community and effectively assist those seeking funding for higher education. Darolyn stays very busy, but enjoys spending time with her family. She has a beautiful daughter that is her carbon copy and the light of her life. In her spare time, Darolyn enjoys curling up with a good book or fueling her creative juices with various arts and crafts projects.

Comments from Darolyn

My career in financial aid has been both rewarding and challenging. Many of my colleagues have become dear friends, and those relationships bring added value to both my professional and personal life.

New publication posting HOPE Foster Care Child Tuition Grant Update on the TSAC website

We are working diligently to keep our website updated with the latest information and publications. TSAC has created TAA and lottery scholarship *Change of Institution* forms in order to streamline this process for students and institutions. These forms can be found on the TSAC website under the link marked "Student and Parents." A subheading has been added on this page which contains links to each form. We hope that the avail-

ability of this document will help to assist your office and students in this busy time of year.

In addition, multiple requests have also been received from colleges, universities, and high schools regarding the annual TSAC brochure. This revamped publication is currently in the printing process and should be available within the next few weeks. Any requests received can be emailed to the Communications

Services Division at courtney.dillard@state.tn.us, where they are being compiled for distribution. In the meantime, a temporary lottery scholarship factsheet is available online under the link "Lottery Scholarship Data".

Recent legislation added independent universities to the list of institutions eligible to participate in the HOPE Foster Care Child Tuition Grant program. While implementing this change, questions arose concerning the proper method of calculating award amounts. TSAC has asked the Tennessee Attorney General's office for advice, and will keep you informed. Until then, HOPE Foster Care Child Tuition Grant eligibility rosters have been delayed.



Change of Institution Forms

[Change of Institution for Lottery Scholarship Programs](#)

[Change of Institution for Tennessee Student Assistance Award](#)

Change of Institution forms located on the Student & Parent page

TSAC's New Move

New changes are emerging everyday within our growing organization. In addition to multiple new endeavors occurring throughout each division of TSAC, we can now, officially, add relocation to our list of priorities. While our home will remain in Parkway Towers, the move will allow the Grants and Scholarships division to join Communication Services on the 15th floor of our existing building. The Business Affairs and Loan departments will be relocating to offices on the 17th floor. The highly anticipated move will help to streamline processes within our corporation, while giving us much needed additional space. Our transition is slated to begin during the first week of October. Wish us luck!

*** IMPORTANT ***

Please remember that the following numbers: 1-866-291-2675 and 1-615-741-3000 were created for administrators and counselors only. These numbers are especially for your convenience and will not connect with a help counselor immediately.

Please route parent and student questions to: 1-800-342-1663 and/or 1-615-741-1346.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Preparations are underway for the 2nd annual College Goal Sunday - Tennessee. As most of you know the 2007 event is on February 18th. Currently, there are approximately 25 sites interested in participating.

Due to the increased number in sites -- the need for knowledgeable volunteers is more important than ever! To learn more about participating please contact Darolyn-- Porter or Naomi Derryberry. Stay tuned to future TSAC Updates for more details as available.

Tennessee Student Assistance Award 2006-07

Good News! With the many changes that accompanied the passing of the Higher Education Reconciliation Act, one that we all agree is positive is that the financial aid community will not have to consider LEAP/SLEAP in your Title IV Refund calculations. We share in your excitement about this change!

Upcoming TSAC Events

- 9/12/06 Default Prevention Summit
- 9/28/06 TSAC Board Meeting

Tennessee Fall Educator Workshops:

- 9/20/06 Columbia State Community College
- 9/21/06 Union University
- 9/22/06 University of Memphis
- 9/26/06 East Tennessee State University
- 9/28/06 University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 9/29/06 Tennessee Technological University
- 10/3/06 Austin Peay State University
- 10/4/06 Lee University

Upcoming Conference:

- 9/15/06 - 9/17/06
The Educational Lottery "Working for Children," in Franklin, TN
- 9/5/06 - 11/3/06
TACRAO College Fairs
- 10/22/06 - 10/24/06
TASFAA Conference in Franklin, TN
- 11/18/06 - 11/21/06
Tennessee Counselors Association, in Chattanooga, TN